TACO vs. CONE
OUTLINE V4
March 3, 2021
By: Katherine Sandford

Mains: Jamal, Anna
Goal: Knowing your worth, supporting others
Taco: Comfort Taco, mac and cheese with a cheezy heart on it.

1. EXT. TACO TRUCK - DAY

STEVIE and GLORIA are outside the truck. Ahhh, what a beautiful day in Pawlyn Park. The only thing that could make it better is…TACOS of course, and with that, they open their truck.

TRUCK OPENING SEQUENCE: Sooo…COOL!

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL: "That never gets old," says Stevie to camera, and Gloria nods in agreement, "Yep, that's one awesome Truck Trick." Stevie smiles, "Truck trick - try saying that five times fast. So they do "Truck-trick, truck-trick truck-trick truck-trick

BACK ON: Stevie and Gloria are still saying "Truck-trick" and giggling. "Now that we did our truck trick, all we need are…

"…CUSTOMERS!" says Jamal as he walks out of the van figuring accounts on his calculator-watch. He's worried. Business has been slower than the Scoops Sisters chocolate sauce – mmmm, chocolate sauce. If we don't make more Pawbits soon, we might have to start cutting back our exotic ingredient budget.

ANGLE ON: Gloria wears a safety mask as she drops a TROPICAL HOT PEPPER in a boiling pot, “That’s not happening.”

BACK ON: Stevie has a better idea. Instead of cutting back ingredients, they should up their game, and use their Taco-time to attract NEW customers. Yes! Gloria says she’ll invent a NEW Taco. Something unexpected… She holds up her hands like a view finder, scanning the room for inspiration. “A taco for….a bird? No too bird seed-y… A taco with…… [eyes land on Stevie] a mohawk? It’s got potential..”

“Did someone say UNEXPECTED??” says GINGER as they poke their head into frame (that’s a Ginger thing—poking in from unexpected angles/places), startling Jamal who jumps up in the air and OS. WHAA!

“Fret not, friend-os! I have a poppin’ new promo idea that’s gonna solve EVERYTHING – all I need is…” with that Ginger catches Jamal in their arms! “JAMAL!” Ginger whisks him OS. “Ready in a Taco minute,” Ginger singsongs, then immediately reappears.

“TA-DAH!” Ginger steps away from their proud creation: Jamal is dressed in a GIANT taco mascot suit with WINGS! “Jamal is serving glitz, glam and Flying Taco realness,” says Ginger.

WIDEN: Stevie and Gloria are suitably impressed. WOOOOOOOW! Jamal is a ginormous Flying Taco. Did NOT see that coming.

“I knoooow, right?” says Ginger proudly. “I sewed it myself!”

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL: Ginger smiles proudly, sewing scissors in hand. “Yep. I am THAT good!” Snip, snip. WIDEN TO REVEAL: they’re missing patches in their clothes.

BACK ON: Woooow! Jamal LOVES his new taco suit only…he can’t quite work his calculator watch (think the overdressed kid in A Christmas Story). “Not to worry, Jamal,” says Ginger. “Soon we’ll have so many customers there’s no way you’ll be able to add them all up. Come on!”

“That is NOT logically possible!” says Jamal as he waddles OS after Ginger. Stevie grabs a stack of flyers and follows, while Gloria goes back to the kitchen to work on her new taco.

2. EXT. PAWLYN PARK (NEAR THE GAZEBO) - DAY

"How about here? No, here. No, HERE!" Ginger moves Jamal around like they're positioning a piece of art. Finally, "Perfectimundo!" says Ginger, satisfied. "Okay Jamal, werk it!"

"Tacos! Get your Flying Tacos! Tacos, Tacos, TACOS!!!" calls Jamal lamely yet gamely. AERIAL VIEW His last "Taco" echoes around Pawlyn Park. There are a few people around, just none near the Taco Truck.

BACK ON: Hmmm. Something's missing. Ginger knows – Enthusiasm Extravaganza! Huh? Pom-poms!! They pull some out of their pocket and hand them to Jamal. Oh, Okay. Jamal starts jumping around, really getting into it, maybe doing the "running man". "Go tacos. Go tacos. Go, go, go tacos…" A little crowd starts to gather. Ooooh. Ginger and Stevie smile and start to pass out flyers when suddenly…

"I scream, you scream, we all scream for ICE CREAM!" A Giant Ice Cream Cone comes cartwheeling through the screen, face obscured, totally upstaging Jamal. "Visit the Soaring Scoop TODAY!" The Cone does a backflip and lands in a split.

A beat, then the ice cream cone points towards the Soaring Scoop. The crowd <CHEERS> and runs towards the truck.

ANGLE ON: The hamster sisters are at the serving counter. "One at a time, one at a time! There's lots for EVERYBODY!"

BACK ON: "Whoa, Giant Ice Cream Cone," says Jamal with true admiration. "You are really good…" At this moment, the Cone turns, and we see who is inside. "<GASP!> Oh, no! Anna?"

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL – Jamal enumerates: "Checkers, chess, Marco Polo, monkey in the middle, solitaire and Simon Says! That's right, even *Simon* says Anna is better than me at EVERYTHING!" As Jamal struggles with his feelings, Anna pops up from behind the couch and starts making faces (he doesn't notice). "It's not that I MIND when she wins, it's just…" Jamal searches for the words. "She's my *little sister*…" He turns and notices her—"ANNA!" CU on Anna's grin.

BACK ON: CU on Anna grinning in her cone suit. “Jamal! You’re a Taco? Guess what! I’m an Ice Cream Cone! AWESOME! Are you ready, Big Brother?” Ready for what? “It’s a Taco Vs. Cone challenge!!” Well, okay!

3. TACO vs. CONE – MUSICAL MONTAGE (SONG OF THE WEEK)

- Jamal starts out tentatively shaking his pom-poms, slowly getting into it, maybe doing a few simple TikTok dance moves. But here comes Cone, with a spinning sign – doing all those crazy things the sign-spinners do.
  ANGLE ON: The line is building up at the Soaring Scoop!
- Jamal spins around, then throws his pom-poms into the air. Here comes Cone, doing front flips then squeezing herself until confetti and maybe even FIREWORKS come blasting out of her head. ANGLE ON: The line at the Soaring Scoop is even longer.
- Jamal is dancing VERY lamely, kind of like a figure skater. Ginger can’t resist and dances into frame more gracefully, but almost knocks Jamal over. Ginger grabs Jamal’s arm before he falls, whew, they continue the figure skating move, hoisting Jamal over their head. Wow!! Stevie claps with pride, “Go Taco!”

  But suddenly they hear the sound of an airplane. They look up, there’s Cone, sky-diving! “Two, four, six, eight, Soaring Scoop is REALLY GREAT! YAY! ICE CREAM!!” Her parachute unfurls – it’s an even bigger Ice Cream Cone – wooooow.

  ANGLE ON: The ground, the last few spectators run towards the Soaring Scoop and join the line as Whoooa! Ginger loses their balance and collapses in a heap with Jamal. Stevie face-palms.

END MONTAGE

Jamal, Ginger and Stevie watch gob-smacked, as Cone drifts to the ground on her parachute. “You may have wings, Jamal, but she’s REALLY FLYING,” says Stevie as they run to her. “Girl, you are a promotional GENIUS!” gushes Ginger.

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL: Anna grins. “What can I say? I’m a DOUBLE scoop of good!” She winks. Ping.

BACK ON: “And I’m just…not that good,” says Jamal, slumping. “I give up. Anna wins – AGAIN!” Defeated, he heads back to the Taco Truck. “Jamal, wait!” cries Ginger. “Let him be, Ginger,” says Stevie wisely. “Let him be.”

WIDEN: A little way off, Anna is watching her brother as he makes his way to the truck. Jamal? She follows him.

4. INT. TACO TRUCK (LOUNGE AREA) – DAY

Jamal has shed his uncomfortable Taco suit and is fiddling with his calculator when Anna gingerly opens the door. “Jamal?” “Leave me alone, Anna.” Anna steps into the truck. “You don’t have to give up.” Jamal says he’s discouraged because he’ll never be as good as Anna. Anna says that doesn’t matter, he’s still a great Taco. “Just have fun, Jamal. That’s what I do.”

Jamal thinks about it, hmm, yeah. I guess that’s why you’re so good, Anna. You sure do have fun. But being a Giant Taco isn’t all cheese and salsa, it’s hard work! They don’t PAY me enough for this!

HORROR ZOOM: This stops Anna in her tracks. “Wait a minute, they PAY you?”

Jamal says sure, he gets the same hourly wage whether he’s serving customers, doing the books, or dancing around in a crazy Taco suit. “Really?” says Anna, interested. “How much is that? “15 Pawbits,” says Jamal. Anna is shocked. “15 PAWBITS!! You get 15 PAWBITS?” “No, I get 15 Pawbits AN HOUR,” says Jamal.

PAWBIT SUPER With a clock, demos the difference between 15 Pawbits and 15 Pawbits an hour.

Anna is gobsmacked. “15 Pawbits an hour.” “Yeah. How much more do you get?” asks Jamal. Anna says she doesn’t get more, she gets less. A lot less. How much less? CU On Anna’s little face as she admits her terrible truth - 15 Pawbits less. In other words…nothing.

Jamal jumps to his feet in indignation. “What? You’re working for FREE?” Anna nods, embarrassed and admits she was having so much fun she didn’t even think to ask for money. “Well, that

is NOT FAIR!" says Jamal. Anna is working so hard, and her dancing is attracting so many customers. The Scoop Sisters are making Pawbits and so should she! Cone and Taco may be rivals, but Jamal won't let anybody be unfair to his little sister. Come on!

5. EXT. SOARING SCOOP – DAY

Jamal gives Anna a little pep talk. "You got this, sis. You are a SKYDIVING ICE CREAM CONE for crying out loud, you deserve to get paid!"

Anna steels her nerve and confronts the Scoop Sisters, but the shifty hamsters hold firm. Anna should have asked for money BEFORE she started. Well, that's true, but it's still not fair. Betty shrugs and says they just don't have the Pawbits to pay Anna. They spent all their extra money on the suit. **PAWBITS SUPER** – shows the Pawbits going for a suit.

And besides, wearing the Cone is soooo easy. Anyone could do it. Anyone? That hurts Anna's feelings, but before she can say more, Jamal steps up. "If you won't pay her then she QUITS!" Anna is shocked. "I do?"

"Yep. Come on Anna, you are worth more than this." Anna is about to exit when Betty steps up. "Hang on – we'll have our Cone suit back, please. You can wear it Betsy." Me? I can't wear that cone suit! You wear it. No, you! No, you! We FADE OUT on Hamsters arguing…

6. EXT. TACO TRUCK – DAY

Ginger and Stevie are sitting in the picnic area behind the truck when Gloria comes out. "No new customers?" "Not yet. Any luck with the new Taco?" No, Gloria is still searching for inspiration – sigh!

At that moment, Anna and Jamal arrive back at the Taco Truck, and Anna is totally down in the dumps. Not only did she not get paid for her work, but the hamster sisters told her ANYONE could do what she does, and now she can't even do the fun thing that she loved doing! Siiiiigh.

Gloria scanning with her fingers up like a view finder- lands on bummed out Anna and she knows just what to do. Anna is the inspiration she's been searching for.

TACO MOMENT – Gloria makes Anna (and her friends) Comfort Tacos with mac and cheese and a cheezy heart to make Anna feel better. Aww, thanks Gloria. Anna takes a bite. Mmmm, mac and cheezy goodness.

WIDEN: Meanwhile, in the background, we can see Betty in the distance struggling with the Cone Suit. After a couple of false starts, the clumsy little hamster eventually loses her balance and rolls down a hill. AHHHHH! What was that? The gang shrugs and goes back to their tacos.

Feeling better, Anna says she realizes that the Scoop Sisters were taking advantage of her, but she's still a little sad. She really loved being a Giant Cone. Jamal explains that Anna was having so much fun she didn't even think to ask for money. Stevie is the one who reminds Anna that there is value to all work, even when it feels like play. Gloria agrees and says it's up to Anna to decide how much her time is worth.

Seconds later the Hamster Sisters arrive. They beg Anna to resume her job. "I thought you didn't have enough Pawbits to pay me?" says Anna. "We don't today," says Betty. "But we will tomorrow, if you come back to work." But Jamal insists that Anna get paid for the work she's already done somehow, even if it's not in Pawbits.

There must be SOMETHING they can pay Anna so she'll come back. CU: On Anna, smiling slowly. "I have an idea." CROSSFADE TO:

7. EXT. TACO TRUCK – MOMENTS LATER

CU on Anna smiling as she eats a GIANT ice cream cone. "This is what I call getting PAID!" **PAWBITS SUPER** – Shows dancing Cone equals ice cream.

WIDEN: We see ALL the Taco Team are eating big ice cream cones. Does Anna feel better, now that's she's been paid what she's worth? "Yeah," says Anna thoughtfully. "This ice cream is yummmy. But…ya know what…?"

She runs off and immediately returns wearing the Ice Cream Cone suit modified to include a Taco. "Ice Cream TACOS are better!!" she cries as she runs off cartwheeling and calling. "TACOS! ICE CREAM! COME AND GET YOUR TACOS AND ICE CREAM."

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL: Ginger smiles proudly, sewing scissors in hand. "Told ya, I am THAT good!" Snip, snip. REVEAL even more missing patches in clothing.

BACK ON: Gloria runs to the kitchen as customers immediately start lining up. Stevie smiles, "Well, I guess I have another paycheck to write," she says as she makes her way to the cash.

CU on Jamal, smiling proudly at Ginger. "What can I say? My little sister is double scoop taco good!"

TO CAMERA TESTIMONIAL: Anna grins confidently. "I really am!"

IRIS OUT, THE END